

# New Tuberculosis Beds In the United States In June 1954

In the United States and its Territories more than 2,600 new tuberculosis beds have recently been or are being constructed with State appropriated funds, according to information made available in June 1954 to the Division of Special Health Services, Public Health Service. The new beds are in addition to 114,500 (1) beds which represent the official rated capacity for care and treatment of tuberculosis patients as of April 1953. In the latter part of 1953 two States alone, Illinois and North Carolina, added nearly 600 of the 2,649 new beds. Ten States will be responsible for the addition of the remaining new beds. In these States, plans for construction have been approved, and construction is under way or has been completed. The greater part of this construction is being carried out with the aid of funds provided by the Hospital Survey and Construction Act. The table shows the distribution of these beds by State.

It has come to our attention, moreover, that apart from the 2,649 beds being constructed with State funds, approximately 700 more tuberculosis beds are under construction for which no financial assistance is being provided by State governments.

This increase in the number of beds for the treatment of tuberculosis is a continuation of

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*Prepared by the Tuberculosis Program, Division of Special Health Services, Public Health Service.*

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the upward trend which started when Trudeau built his first small sanatorium at Saranac, N. Y., in 1885, a trend which has continued unbroken since then. The net increase in non-Federal tuberculosis beds between January 1, 1952, and April 1, 1953, was about 2,650. This is an actual increase since it does not include replacement beds (the 2,649 new beds discussed in paragraphs 1 and 2 may include replacement beds).

**Tuberculosis beds constructed or to be constructed with State appropriated funds in addition to the beds shown in the Public Health Service tuberculosis bed index, Apr. 1, 1953**

State	Number of hospitals	Number of tuberculosis beds
Total.....	15	2,649
Alabama.....	2	302
California.....	1	287
Idaho.....	1	50
Illinois.....	1	483
Kansas.....	1	75
Michigan.....	2	250
Missouri.....	1	69
North Carolina.....	1	100
Ohio.....	1	100
South Carolina.....	1	207
Tennessee.....	1	226
Texas.....	2	500

Some States have a sufficient number of beds for the care of their tuberculosis patients. In other parts of the country, however, the need for additional beds continues to be acute. In these places it is vital to the control of tuberculosis that more hospitalization facilities be provided.

#### REFERENCE

- (1) U. S. Public Health Service: Tuberculosis beds in hospitals and sanatoria, April 1, 1953. PHS Publication No. 337. Washington, D. C., U. S. Government Printing Office, 1954.